4: Richter M, G-5 (ca. 1856-1870) 1870 AW5 Coorg AW5

There are 31 cloth= 383 —

merchants, 32 tobacco-sellers, 41 petty dealers, 8 jewel- 632
makers and 4 money-changers and bankers, which shows, [463]
that the community must be a thriving one. A school con- [871]
taining about 50 children is also maintained by the inhabi-
tants, but like those at Sómawárpet, they show little inclination
to render assistance for the establishment of a Government
English School, though they seem to be anxious to have one,
if every thing is done for them.

2. ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

a. In the time of the Rájahs.

The Rájahs, having exercised sovereign power arbitrarily, 643
never established any court of judicature, nor framed any 692
code of judicial regulations. They published, however, a 671
Hukum-náma (code) for the administration of revenue, to
which they added a few paragraphs, simply defining the de-
grees of punishment which the district officials might in their
judicial capacity inflict upon offenders without reference to
the Huzur (Huzur, presence, highest authority). By usage
(mámúl) the following judicial system became established:—

The Gauda, the headman of the village, enquired into the 692
complaints preferred by the ryots residing in it, respecting
civil cases or petty offences and settled them upon viva voce
evidence either himself or through a Pancháyat (court of
arbitration) according to circumstances. He was incompetent
to adjudge cases of heinous crimes. The Gauda could try
petty criminal offences, but had to commit the guilty person
to the Kacheri of the Párapatiagár, who could award punish-
ment not exceeding three days. Caste disputes were settled
by the Kuláchára (guardian of the observances peculiar to
caste), who had authority to punish to the amount of 12
fanams or Rs. 3 as. 8. The appeal from the Gauda or his